

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15
NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 ACDA-12 HA-05
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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2926
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY GABORONE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PORG, SW
SUBJECT: SWAPO LETTER TO SYG WALDHEIM ON SECURITY
SITUATION IN NAMIBIA

1. THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL (CHINA)
AUGUST 22 TRANSMITTED TO MEMBERS THE TEXT OF A LETTER
(PARA TWO BELOW) DATED AUGUST 18, 1978, ADDRESSED
TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL AND SIGNED BY SWAPO'S UN
OBSERVER. THE LETTER GIVES SWAPO'S VIEWS ON RECENT
CONCERNS OVER THE SECURITY SITUATION IN NAMIBIA.
ATTACHED TO THE LETTER WERE COPIES OF SEPARATE
MEMORANDUMS TO SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE AHTISAARI, ONE
FROM SWAPO AND THE OTHER FROM NAMIBIAN CHURCH LEADERS.
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THE SWAPO MEMORANDUM DETAILS SWAPO VIEWS ON REGISTRATION
(STEYN'S PROCESS UNFAIR), POLITICAL PRISONERS, TORTURE,
RADIO (SHOULD BE EVEN-HANDED), AHTISAARI'S TRAVELS IN
NAMIBIA (SHOULD BE UNRESTRICTED), REPRESSIVE MEASURES,
INTIMIDATION, PEOPLE WITH ARMS (CONFISCATE THE ARMS)
AND TIME TABLE AND INDEPENDENCE DATE (WESTERN-PROPOSED
TIME TABLE PROVIDING FOR WELL-PLANNED OPERATION MORE

IMPORTANT THAN INDEPENDENCE DATE). ALL THREE TEXTS
DATAFAXED DEPT, ATT: ESCUDERO.

2. TEXT OF SWAPO LETTER TO SYG FOLLOWS:

QUOTE:

EXCELLENCY,

THE PRESIDENT OF SWAPO SAM NUJOMA WISHES ME, ON
BEHALF OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE, TO CONVEY THE CONCERN
AND TREPIDATION FELT REGARDING THE REPORTED REPRESENTATIONS
TO EXCELLENCY BY THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
ILLEGAL OCCUPYING REGIME IN NAMIBIA.

WE HAVE LEARNED THAT RACIST SOUTH AFRICA IS
CHARGING SWAPO FOR RESPONSIBILITY OVER "UNABATED
ACTS OF VIOLENCE AGAINST THE LOCAL POPULATION" IN
NORTHERN NAMIBIA AND IS REQUESTING EXCELLENCY TO DO
SOMETHING TOWARDS "A CESSATION OF THESE INCIDENTS
SO AS TO LOWER TENSION IN THE BORDER AREA".

IN THIS CONNECTION, IT IS OUR FIRM CONVICTION
BASED ON REPORTS FROM OUR OWN SOURCES AND FROM
OTHERS CONNECTED WITH THE RACIST MILITARY ORGANIZATION
THAT SOUTH AFRICA HAS, ONCE AGAIN, AMASSED LARGE
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NUMBERS OF TROOPS AND EQUIPMENT ALONG THE NORTHERN
BORDER. THE NEXT, LOGICAL STEP, IN OUR VIEW, IS THAT
VORSTER AND HIS CO-HORTS ARE PLANNING TO LAUNCH
ANOTHER MASSIVE ATTACK ON SWAPO, HOPING TO FORCE US
TO ABANDON THE DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS FOR A NEGOTIATED
SETTLEMENT.

EXCELLENCY WILL RECALL THAT ON THE EVE OF THE
MEETING SCHEDULED FOR 8TH MAY 1978 BETWEEN THE FIVE
AND SWAPO, THE FACIST TROOPD OF SOUTH AFRICA LAUNCHED
A GENOCIDAL ATTACK ON OUR REFUGEE SETTLEMENT AT
KASSINGA, KILLING AND WOUNDING MORE THAN 1,000
INNOCENT NAMIBIAN CHILDREN, WOMEN AND ELDERLY PERSONS.
THE STRATEGY THEN AS NOW WAS TO ENRAGE SWAPO SO
MUCH SO THAT WE WOULD BREAK DOWN THE TALKS. THEY
FAILED THEN. NOW THEY WANT TO REPEAT THE SAME SINISTER
PLAN.

THIS TIME, HOWEVER, THEY HOPE TO GET THE UNITED
NATIONS INVOLVED IN ORDER TO GIVE CREDIBILITY TO AND
SUPPORT FOR THEIR FABRICATED STORIES OF "INCREASED
ARMED ACTIVITIES IN NAMIBIA" FOR WHICH THEY CLAIM

SWAPO IS RESPONSIBLE.

SWAPO WISHES TO GO ON RECORD IN CATEGORICALLY
REFUTING AND REJECTING ALL THESE ALLEGATIONS.

SWAPO ALSO FIRMLY DISASSOCIATES ITSELF FROM ANY
RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE TENSE SITUATION THAT HAS
DEVELOPED IN NAMIBIA AND WHICH IS REFERRED TO IN THE
SECRETARY-GENERAL'S PRESS STATEMENT OF 16 AUGUST 1978.

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SUCH A RESPONSIBILITY RESTS SQUARELY ON SOUTH AFRICA.
MOREOVER, WE TRUST THAT THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S
STATEMENT IS NOT BASED ON SOUTH AFRICA'S VERSION OF
THE SITUATION.

THROUGHOUT THE PERIOD THAT WE HAVE BEEN INVOLVED
IN A DIPLOMATIC ACTIVITY IN NAMIBIA, WE HAVE PERSISTENTLY
AND SYSTEMATICALLY CATALOGUED VICIOUS ACTS OF REPRESSION,
TORTURE, INDISCRIMINATE ARRESTS, IMPRISONMENT AND
MURDER OF OUR PEOPLE PERPETRATED BY THE PRETORIA
AUTHORITIES. WE HAVE PUT ALL THESE ON RECORD IN

THE SECURITY COUNCIL AND THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, ESPECIALLY
DURING THE NINTH SPECIAL SESSION ON NAMIBIA.

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AT THIS STAGE, WE WISH TO DRAW THE ATTENTION OF
YOUR EXCELLENCY TO TWO VERY IMPORTANT AND TIMELY
DOCUMENTS EMANATING FROM INSIDE NAMIBIA.

THE FIRST IS A MEMORANDUM SUBMITTED BY SWAPO
DELEGATION TO MR. AHTISAARI IN WINDHOEK ON 8 AUGUST
1978.

THE SECOND IS ANOTHER MEMORANDUM SUBMITTED BY
NAMIBIAN CHURCH LEADERS TO MR. AHTISAARI.

THE TWO DOCUMENTS SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES.

SUFFICE IT TO STATE, AT THIS JUNCTURE, THAT THERE
IS NO AGREEMENT FOR CEASEFIRE IN NAMIBIA, AS A RESULT
OF CONTINUED ILLEGAL OCCUPATION, INTENSIFIED REPRESSION
AND VIOLENCE FOR WHICH SOUTH AFRICA IS SINGLEHANDEDLY
RESPONSIBLE. THIS IS THE ROOT CAUSE OF THE CONFRONTATION
AND VIOLENCE AND THIS IS THE PROBLEM TO BE ADDRESSED.

OVER THE YEARS OF YOUR EXCELLENCY'S AMBASSADORIAL
ASSIGNMENT AT THE UNITED NATIONS AND DURING THE CURRENT
TENURE OF OFFICE, SWAPO LEADERS HAVE ENJOYED THE
BEST RELATIONS OF CORDIALITY AND CO-OPERATION ON ALL
ISSUES CONCERNING NAMIBIA.

WE VALUE THIS EXTREMELY AND INTEND TO MAINTAIN IT.

THIS NOTE IS A PRECAUTIONARY MEASURE TO ALERT YOUR
EXCELLENCY TO SOUTH AFRICA'S PERSISTENT AND INTENSIFIED
THREATS WHICH ARE MORE THAN LIKELY TO BE TRANSLATED
INTO BARBARIC ACTS CAUSING MORE DEATHS AND DESTRUCTION.

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IN CONCLUSION, WE WISH TO REQUEST YOUR
EXCELLENCY, MOST RESPECTFULLY, TO TRANSMIT THE TEXT
OF THIS LETTER AND COPIES OF THE TWO DOCUMENTS TO
THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL FOR THE
MONTH FOR CONSIDERATION.

PLEASE ACCEPT, EXCELLENCY, THE RENEWED
ASSURANCES OF MY HIGHEST CONSIDERATION.

SINCERELY YOURS,
THEO-BEN GURIRAB
PERMANENT OBSERVER
END QUOTE. YOUNG

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